

VZCZCXRO2985
OO RUEHROV
DE RUEHFR #4455 3131415
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 091415Z NOV 07
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1075
INFO RUCNIAD/IGAD COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE 0765
RUEHAE/AMEMBASSY ASMARA IMMEDIATE 0363
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1397

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 004455

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/08/2017
TAGS: [UNSC](#) [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [PINR](#) [ET](#) [ER](#) [FR](#)
SUBJECT: ERITREA/ETHIOPIA: FRANCE CONCURS ON APPROACH FOR
UNSC MEETING

REF: STATE 153831

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor Josiah B. Rosenblatt.
Reasons
1.4b,d

11. (C) Africa Watcher conveyed reftel demarche to MFA AF DAS for East Africa Helene Le Gal on November 8. Le Gal commented that France agreed on the need to support U/SYG Pascoe's efforts and to allow space for the parties alone, as signatories of the Algiers Agreements, to decide the effect of and whether to implement the EEBC's virtual demarcation decision.

12. (C) Maintaining that American and French views were similar, Le Gal expressed dissatisfaction with the plan of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC) for virtual demarcation of the border by map coordinates at the end of November. Le Gal's core objection was that the EEBC, which she called a valuable independent instrument, intended to disband after virtual demarcation. Without the EEBC, there would be a need either to reinvent it by establishing a new international body or some sort to monitor the crisis or else the Security Council itself would need to play a more frontline role, which could further escalate tensions. It was unlikely, however, that the French delegation would voice criticisms of the EEBC plan when the UNSC meets to consider the situation.

Please visit Paris' Classified Website at:
<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/paris/index.cfm>

STAPLETON